

CORRECTED VERSION

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
8 September 2000 (08.09.2000)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 00/52036 A1**

- (51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: C07K 7/56, 1/36 (74) Agents: LEHNHARDT, Susan, K. et al.; Morrison & Foerster LLP, 755 Page Mill Road, Palo Alto, CA 94304-1018 (US).
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/US00/05494
- (22) International Filing Date: 2 March 2000 (02.03.2000) (81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data: 60/123,073 3 March 1999 (03.03.1999) US (84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- (71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): ELI LILLY AND COMPANY [US/US]; Lilly Corporate Center, Indianapolis, IN 46285 (US).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): DADLER, Brian, Weston [US/US]; 249 Dale Street, West Lafayette, IN 47906 (US). DOTLICH, Michael, Anthony [US/US]; 3722 Thomas Jefferson Road, Lafayette, IN 47905 (US). KALLMAN, Neil, John [US/US]; 100 S. 11th Street, Lafayette, IN 47905 (US). LARSEN, Samuel, Dean [US/US]; 3088 Hamilton Street, West Lafayette, IN 47905 (US). VAN DEN BERGHE SNOREK, Sharon [US/US]; 4616 Doe Path Lane, Lafayette, IN 47905 (US). VICENZI, Jeffrey, Thomas [US/US]; 49 Timber Lane, Brownsburg, IN 46112 (US).
- Published:  
— With international search report.
- (48) Date of publication of this corrected version: 21 June 2001
- (15) Information about Correction:  
see PCT Gazette No. 25/2001 of 21 June 2001, Section II
- For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*



WO 00/52036 A1

(54) Title: FORMATION AND ANION-EXCHANGE OF CRYSTALLINE ECHINOCANDIN AMMONIUM SALTS

(57) Abstract: A method is described for forming a crystalline Echinocandin nucleus salt from its mixed broth and/or partially purified process streams by the steps of nano-filtration to form a concentrate, addition of an aldehyde derivatizing agent which interacts with an aldehyde impurity, addition of an acid/metal salt to form a solubilized echinocandin nucleus salt having the desired anion, and subsequent cooling of the mixture to crystallize the salt.

PCT

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION  
International Bureau



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

<p>(51) International Patent Classification <sup>7</sup> : <b>C07K 7/56, 1/36</b></p>	<p><b>A1</b></p>	<p>(11) International Publication Number: <b>WO 00/52036</b> (43) International Publication Date: 8 September 2000 (08.09.00)</p>
<p>(21) International Application Number: <b>PCT/US00/05494</b> (22) International Filing Date: <b>2 March 2000 (02.03.00)</b> (30) Priority Data: 60/123,073 3 March 1999 (03.03.99) <b>US</b> (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): <b>ELI LILLY AND COMPANY [US/US]; Lilly Corporate Center, Indianapolis, IN 46285 (US).</b> (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): <b>DADLER, Brian, Weston [US/US]; 249 Dale Street, West Lafayette, IN 47906 (US). DOTLICH, Michael, Anthony [US/US]; 3722 Thomas Jefferson Road, Lafayette, IN 47905 (US). KALLMAN, Neil, John [US/US]; 100 S. 11th Street, Lafayette, IN 47905 (US). LARSEN, Samuel, Dean [US/US]; 3088 Hamilton Street, West Lafayette, IN 47905 (US). VAN DEN BERGHE SNOREK, Sharon [US/US]; 4616 Doe Path Lane, Lafayette, IN 47905 (US). VICENZI, Jeffrey, Thomas [US/US]; 49 Timber Lane, Brownsburg, IN 46112 (US).</b> (74) Agents: <b>LEHNHARDT, Susan, K. et al.; Morrison &amp; Foerster LLP, 1290 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10104-0012 (US).</b></p>	<p>(81) Designated States: <b>AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).</b>  <b>Published</b> <i>With international search report.</i></p>	
<p>(54) Title: <b>FORMATION AND ANION-EXCHANGE OF CRYSTALLINE ECHINOCANDIN AMMONIUM SALTS</b> (57) Abstract <p>A method is described for forming a crystalline Echinocandin nucleus salt from its mixed broth and/or partially purified process streams by the steps of nano-filtration to form a concentrate, addition of an aldehyde derivatizing agent which interacts with an aldehyde impurity, addition of an acid/metal salt to form a solubilized echinocandin nucleus salt having the desired anion, and subsequent cooling of the mixture to crystallize the salt.</p></p>		

**FOR THE PURPOSES OF INFORMATION ONLY**

Codes used to identify States party to the PCT on the front pages of pamphlets publishing international applications under the PCT.

AL	Albania	ES	Spain	LS	Lesotho	SI	Slovenia
AM	Armenia	FI	Finland	LT	Lithuania	SK	Slovakia
AT	Austria	FR	France	LU	Luxembourg	SN	Senegal
AU	Australia	GA	Gabon	LV	Latvia	SZ	Swaziland
AZ	Azerbaijan	GB	United Kingdom	MC	Monaco	TD	Chad
BA	Bosnia and Herzegovina	GE	Georgia	MD	Republic of Moldova	TG	Togo
BB	Barbados	GH	Ghana	MG	Madagascar	TJ	Tajikistan
BE	Belgium	GN	Guinea	MK	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	TM	Turkmenistan
BF	Burkina Faso	GR	Greece	ML	Mali	TR	Turkey
BG	Bulgaria	HU	Hungary	MN	Mongolia	TT	Trinidad and Tobago
BJ	Benin	IE	Ireland	MR	Mauritania	UA	Ukraine
BR	Brazil	IL	Israel	MW	Malawi	UG	Uganda
BY	Belarus	IS	Iceland	MX	Mexico	US	United States of America
CA	Canada	IT	Italy	NE	Niger	UZ	Uzbekistan
CF	Central African Republic	JP	Japan	NL	Netherlands	VN	Viet Nam
CG	Congo	KE	Kenya	NO	Norway	YU	Yugoslavia
CH	Switzerland	KG	Kyrgyzstan	NZ	New Zealand	ZW	Zimbabwe
CI	Côte d'Ivoire	KP	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	PL	Poland		
CM	Cameroon	KR	Republic of Korea	PT	Portugal		
CN	China	KZ	Kazakhstan	RO	Romania		
CU	Cuba	LC	Saint Lucia	RU	Russian Federation		
CZ	Czech Republic	LI	Liechtenstein	SD	Sudan		
DE	Germany	LK	Sri Lanka	SE	Sweden		
DK	Denmark	LR	Liberia	SG	Singapore		
EE	Estonia						

## FORMATION AND ANION-EXCHANGE OF CRYSTALLINE ECHINOCANDIN AMMONIUM SALTS

### FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a process for formation and anion-exchange of  
5 crystalline salts of an echinocandin nucleus, in particular, salts of an Echinocandin B  
nucleus.

### BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Echinocandin cyclopeptides are natural antifungal products. Included in the  
Echinocandin cyclopeptide family are natural products such as Echinocandin B  
10 (ECB), Echinocandin C, Aculeacin A<sub>y</sub>, Mulundocandin, Sporiofungin A,  
Pneumocandin A<sub>o</sub>, WF11899A, and Pneumocandin B<sub>o</sub>. These are typically produced  
by culturing various microorganisms. For example, Echinocandin B is produced from  
the fermentation of the fungus, *Aspergillus Nidulans*.

In the search for more active materials, the natural products have been  
15 modified in a variety of ways. One of the most common has been replacement of the  
N-acyl side chain on the natural product to produce a semi-synthetic derivative. For  
example, U.S. Patent Nos. 4,293,489; 4,320,052; 5,166,135; and 5,541,160; and EP  
359529; 448353; 447186; 462531; and 561639 describe a variety of N-acyl  
derivatized Echinocandin compounds with varying degrees of antifungal activity.

20 The N-acyl derivatives are produced by deacylating the natural product  
followed by reacylation with a different acyl group. Deacylation is typically achieved  
by means of an enzyme (e.g., deacylase enzyme). The deacylase enzyme may be  
obtained from the microorganism *Actinoplanes utahensis* or *Pseudomonas* species  
(see i.e., U.S. Patent Nos. 4,293,482 and 4,304,716; and EP 460,882). The deacylated  
25 compound is typically referred to as the nucleus of the corresponding natural product  
(e.g., the deacylated product of Echinocandin B is referred to as the Echinocandin B  
nucleus (ECBN)). Unfortunately, both the acylated and unacylated products are  
difficult to purify due to their limited solubility and amorphous state. In addition, the  
free amino compound (e.g., ECBN) is generally unstable and subject to ring opening.

30 It is well-known in the art that crystalline materials in general are easier to  
purify than their amorphous counterparts. Hence, it is desirable to produce  
cyclopeptide compounds in their crystalline state to obtain optimal purity. Since the  
potency of the final pharmaceutical product is dependent upon the purity of the  
intermediates used to make the final product, improvements in purity at any stage of  
35 the manufacturing process is highly desirable. Ideally, the contaminants are removed  
at the earliest stage possible in the manufacturing process. Hence, there is a need for a  
process that simplifies and improves the purification of cyclopeptide compounds  
containing a free amino group prior to subsequent attachment of an amino substituent.

## BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

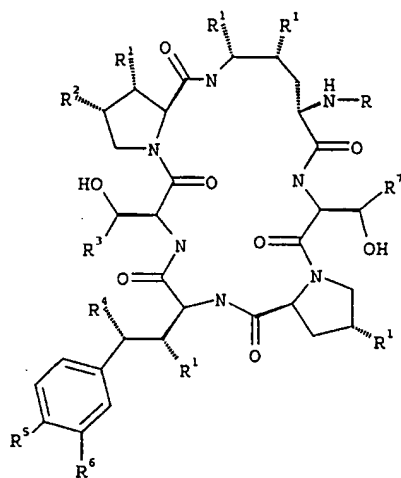
The present invention provides a method for forming a crystalline echinocandin nucleus salt from its mixed broth or partially purified process streams by the steps of (i) concentrating a solution comprising an echinocandin nucleus or  
 5 amorphous salt thereof, an aldehyde impurity and a solvent by means of a nano-filtration process to form a concentrate; (ii) adding an aldehyde derivatizing agent; (iii) adjusting the pH to a value less than 4.0 (preferably between about 2.0 and about 3.0); (iv) adding an acid or metal salt; and (v) cooling the concentrate to crystallize an echinocandin nucleus salt having an anion corresponding to the anion of the acid or  
 10 metal salt added in step(iv). A seed crystal may optionally be added to initiate crystallization.

In another embodiment of the present invention, a process for exchanging the anion of an Echinocandin ammonium salt (including simple derivatives thereof) is provided as well as various forms of crystalline echinocandin nucleus salts.

15

*Definitions*

"Echinocandin compounds" refers to compounds having the following general structure including any simple derivatives thereof:



20

wherein R is a hydrogen or -C(O)R' where R' is an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, an alkynyl group, an aryl group, or heteroaryl group; R<sup>1</sup> is -H or -OH; R<sup>2</sup> is -H, -NH<sub>2</sub> or -CH<sub>3</sub>; R<sup>3</sup> is -H, -CH<sub>3</sub>, -CH<sub>2</sub>CONH<sub>2</sub> or -CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NH<sub>2</sub>; R<sup>4</sup> is -H or -OH; R<sup>5</sup> is -OH, -OSO<sub>3</sub>H, or -OPO<sub>3</sub>HR<sup>\*</sup>, where R<sup>\*</sup> is hydroxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy, phenyl,  
 25 phenoxy, *p*-halophenyl, *p*-halophenoxy, *p*-nitrophenyl, *p*-nitrophenoxy, benzyl, benzyloxy, *p*-halobenzyl, *p*-halobenzyloxy, *p*-nitrobenzyl, or *p*-nitrobenzyloxy; R<sup>6</sup> is -

H, -OH, or -OSO<sub>3</sub>H; R' is -H or -CH<sub>3</sub>; and pharmaceutically acceptable salts, esters, hydrates or solvates thereof. Also included within the meaning of echinocandin are the various enantiomeric forms of structure I illustrated above even though specific chiral centers are depicted. "Echinocandin nucleus" refers to the deacylated

- 5 Echinocandin compound where R is a hydrogen. "ECBN" refers to the Echinocandin B nucleus where R1, R4 and R5 are hydroxyl groups, R2, R3, and R7 are methyl groups; and R and R6 are hydrogens.

"Alkyl" refers to a hydrocarbon radical of the general formula C<sub>n</sub>H<sub>2n+1</sub> containing from 1 to 30 carbon atoms unless otherwise indicated. The alkane radical  
10 may be straight (e.g. methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, etc.), branched (e.g., isopropyl, isobutyl, tertiary butyl, neopentyl, etc.), cyclic (e.g., cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, methylcyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, etc.), or multi-cyclic (e.g., bicyclo[2.2.1]heptane, spiro[2.2]pentane, etc.). The alkane radical may be substituted or unsubstituted. Similarly, the alkyl portion of an alkoxy group or alkanoate have the  
15 same definition as above.

"Alkenyl" refers to an acyclic hydrocarbon containing at least one carbon carbon double bond. The alkene radical may be straight, branched, cyclic, or multi-cyclic. The alkene radical may be substituted or unsubstituted.

"Alkynyl" refers to an acyclic hydrocarbon containing at least one carbon  
20 carbon triple bond. The alkyne radical may be straight, or branched. The alkyne radical may be substituted or unsubstituted.

"Aryl" refers to aromatic moieties having single (e.g., phenyl) or fused ring systems (e.g., naphthalene, anthracene, phenanthrene, etc.). The aryl groups may be substituted or unsubstituted.

25 "Heteroaryl" refers to aromatic moieties containing at least one heteroatom within the aromatic ring system (e.g., pyrrole, pyridine, indole, thiophene, furan, benzofuran, imidazole, pyrimidine, purine, benzimidazole, quinoline, etc.). The aromatic moiety may consist of a single or fused ring system. The heteroaryl groups may be substituted or unsubstituted.

30 Within the field of organic chemistry and particularly within the field of organic biochemistry, it is widely understood that significant substitution of compounds is tolerated or even useful. In the present invention, for example, the term alkyl group allows for substituents which is a classic alkyl, such as methyl, ethyl, propyl, hexyl, isooctyl, dodecyl, stearyl, etc. The term specifically envisions and  
35 allows for substitutions on alkyls which are common in the art, such as hydroxy, halogen, alkoxy, carbonyl, keto, ester, carbamate, etc., as well as including the unsubstituted alkyl moiety. However, the substituents should be selected so as to not adversely affect the pharmacological characteristics of the compound or adversely interfere with the use of the medicament. Suitable substituents for any of the groups

defined above include alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, halo, hydroxy, alkoxy, aryloxy, mercapto, alkylthio, arylthio, mono- and di-alkyl amino, quaternary ammonium salts, aminoalkoxy, hydroxyalkylamino, aminoalkylthio, carbamyl, carbonyl, carboxy, glycolyl, glycyl, hydrazino, guanyl, and combinations thereof.

5 "Solvate" means an aggregate that comprises one or more molecules of the solute, such as Compound I, with one or more molecules of a solvent, such as water, ethanol, and the like.

"Suitable solvent" refers to any solvent, or mixture of solvents, inert to the ongoing reaction that sufficiently solubilizes the reactants to afford a medium within  
10 which to effect the desired anion exchange or salt formation.

"Mixed broth" refers to a conversion mixture where the fermentation broth is treated directly with a deacylating enzyme without purification to produce the deacylated product (e.g. ECBN).

#### DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

15 Crude mixtures of cyclic peptides described herein may be prepared by fermentation of known microorganisms as described in the art. The subsequent deacylation is typically carried out enzymatically using a deacylase enzyme by known materials and procedures described in the art.

For example, the cyclic peptide I where  $R^1$  and  $R^4$  are each hydroxy,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$   
20 and  $R^7$  are each methyl (i.e., cyclic nucleus corresponding to A-30912A) may be prepared using the procedure detailed in U.S. Patent No. 4,293,482. The cyclic peptide II(a) where  $R^1$  is hydroxy,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and  $R^7$  are each methyl, and  $R^4$  is hydrogen (i.e., cyclic nucleus corresponding to A-30912B) may be prepared using the procedure detailed in U.S. Patent No. 4,299,763. Aculeacin may be prepared using the  
25 procedure detailed in U.S. Patent No. 3,978,210. The cyclic peptide I where  $R^3$  is  $\text{CH}_2\text{C}(\text{O})\text{NH}_2$ ,  $R^7$  is methyl,  $R^2$  is hydrogen, and  $R^1$  and  $R^4$  are hydroxy may be prepared using the procedure detailed in U.S. Patent No. 5,198,421.

Fermentation and mixed broths contain a number of related by-products that are very difficult to separate from the desired cyclopeptide product. Reversed phase,  
30 liquid chromatography (RP-LC) has been used in the past with reasonable success; however, the need for higher purity compounds demands even more improved methods of purification.

Products isolated from a mixed broth solution or a fermentation process are generally prefiltered to remove particulates. Prefiltration may be accomplished by  
35 any number of means known in the art including gravity filtration, vacuum filtration through a ceramic filter which may or may not include a Celite™ filter aid, etc. Solids in the fermentation broth may also be removed by centrifugation followed by decanting the liquid from the solids. Concentrates from a mixed broth refer to those acquired directly from the filtration or centrifugation of the fermentation mixed broth.

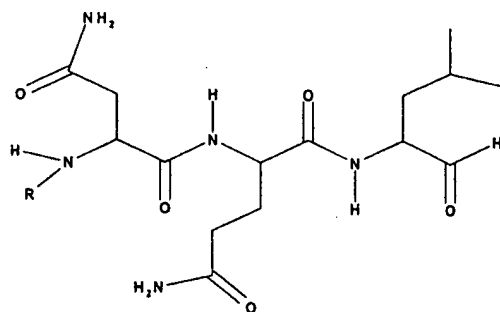
If the filtered solution requires further purification, the concentrated solution may be separated using preparative liquid chromatography prior to any crystallization attempts. Those concentrates that originate from chromatographic partitions serve as an example of solutions from a partially purified process stream and are referred to as a "polished concentrate."

Any chromatographic method well-known in the art may be used to provide the desired separation of products. Preferred chromatographic methods employ the use of reverse-phase media with an acidic elution scheme. Preferably, an eluent containing acetic acid. For example, the material may be purified using the chromatographic method described in Kroeff, et al. filed December 9, 1998 entitled "Purification of Echinocandin Cyclopeptide Compounds." The purification method includes adsorbing the mixture onto a hydrophobic, reversed phase chromatographic media and eluting with a continuous nearly linear acetic acid gradient ranging from 0.1% acetic acid to 10.0% acetic acid by volume in water, preferably from 0.5% (pH=5.5) to 4.0% (pH=2.5) acetic acid.

To crystallize the ECBN salt, the solution from the mixed broth or collected partitions from the chromatographic process are first concentrated. Conventionally, the solution was concentrated by means of an evaporative method (e.g., distillation). However, Applicants have discovered that a nano-filtration system provides a more efficient and higher quality concentrate. The process involves a 200 fold concentration of a dilute (approx. 1g/liter) solution of the cyclopeptide nucleus on an approximately 400 molecular weight reverse osmosis membrane. The membrane retains the cyclopeptide nucleus while allowing lower molecular weight impurities to pass through. The nano-filtration method provides several advantages over the conventional evaporative methods such as, higher potency, eliminates the need for freeze drying the nucleus, shorter cycle time, and significant reduction of degradation products during concentration. Unlike distillation, nano-filtration allows one to produce a concentrate having a weight percent between about 18 and 22% without significant degradation.

In addition to other related impurities, the fermentation broth for Echinocandin B contains varying levels of a tripeptide-aldehyde (Asn-Gln-Leu-H) by-product having the following chemical structure (Ia). The tripeptide-aldehyde by-product under goes deacylation as well as Echinocandin B during the enzymatic deacylation process to form the corresponding deacylated tripeptide-aldehyde (Ib).





(I)

where R is  $C(O)CH_2CH(OH)C_6H_5$  (Ia - fermentation by-product) or a hydrogen (Ib - deacylation by-product from a mixed broth).

Surprisingly, the retention time of the deacylated tripeptide-aldehyde is very similar to ECBN in reversed phase, liquid chromatography (RP-LC), even under optimum elution conditions, thus making it very difficult to separate the deacylated tripeptide-aldehyde (Ib) from the desired ECBN. The nano-filtration process also does not sufficiently remove the deacylated tripeptide-aldehyde. It has now been shown that the tripeptide impurity influences the ability to crystallize the ECBN salt. Although not wishing to be bound by any one theory, it is believed that the tripeptide impurity (Ib) forms a weak complex with the ECB Nucleus in solution which serves to decrease, or otherwise inhibit the rate of ECB Nucleus crystallization, thus contributing to poor product recovery. Consequently, the tripeptide by-product is preferably removed or modified prior to the isolation of crystalline ECBN.

The tripeptide-aldehyde by-product may be modified in the ECBN concentrate by reacting the aldehyde with a derivatizing agent prior to crystallization. The derivatizing agent selectively interacts with the aldehyde thus decreasing or eliminating any interaction between the aldehyde and the ECBN. "Derivatizing agent" refers to a reagent capable of interacting (i.e., reaction or complexation) with the aldehyde functionality of the tripeptide by-product to produce an intermediate that is sufficiently different in hydrophobicity to allow separation of the tripeptide intermediate from the desired ECBN salt. For example, the solubility of the aldehyde is increased such that the ECBN salt selectively crystallizes from solution leaving the aldehyde in solution. Suitable derivatizing agents include sodium bisulfite, hydrazine, hydroxyl amine and semicarbazide hydrochloride. At least one equivalent of derivatizing agent is added per equivalent of aldehyde impurity. Preferably, a slight excess of derivatizing agent is added (i.e., approximately 1.2 equivalents).

An organic or inorganic acid is added to the concentrate to adjust the pH of the concentrate solution to less than 4.0, preferably between about 4.0 and 2.0, more preferably between about 3.5 and about 2.5. The optimum pH (i.e., degree of protonation) will depend upon the local chemical environment of the amine function.

In other words, the pH is adjusted such that formation of the ammonium salt is favored. The ECBN salt may be crystallized from the acidic concentrate by adding an acid or metal salt containing the desired anion followed by slowly cooling the mixture to initiate crystallization. The acid/metal salt may be added in portions. The portions  
5 may be added in equal or unequal amounts. Portion wise addition appears to control the crystal growth process. Typically, the first portion contains nearly twice the amount of the second or third portion. Preferably, the metal salt is added in portions at different temperatures. For example, the first portion of metal salt is added between  
10 about 22 and 28°C, the second portion added between about 20 and 15°C, and the third portion added between about 8 and 12°C. Lowering the temperature from 28°C to about 10°C helps to decrease the solubility of the ECBN salt and thus assists in the crystallization of the ECBN salt; however, further lowering of the temperature below 10°C did not appear to significantly effect the solubility of the ECBN salt. The  
15 increased amount of acid/metal salt added to the concentrate is believed to not only provide a rich anion source, but also reduces the solubility of the ECBN salt. The total amount of acid/metal salt added to the concentrate is generally between about 14 and 16 weight percent of the concentrate. Preferably, a seed crystal is added to assist the initiation of the crystallization process.

When the cyclopeptide is the nucleus of echinocandin B, the acetate salt is an  
20 amorphous solid. Applicants have discovered that the anion of the amorphous ammonium cyclopeptide salt can be easily exchanged in the presence of an alternative anion source (an acid or metal salt) to form a crystalline salt. For example, the HPLC partitions containing the ECBN is typically in the form of an ammonium acetate salt since the eluent is acetic acid. The anion-exchange may be accomplished by adding  
25 the appropriate acid/metal salt which serves as the alternative anion source at any step prior to crystallization. For ECBN, a preferred anion source is HCl/sodium chloride.

In summary, the formation of an ECBN salt includes the steps of: (i) concentrating a solution containing ECBN or amorphous salt thereof and an aldehyde impurity using a nanofiltration process; (ii) adding a derivatizing agent (preferably  
30 sodium bisulfite) which interacts with the aldehyde impurity; (iii) adjusting the pH to less than 4.0; (iv) adding an acid or metal salt (preferably NaCl); and (v) cooling the mixture to initiate crystallization of the ECBN salt. A seed crystal of ECBN salt may optionally be added to help initiate crystallization. Preferably, the sodium chloride is added in three portions (the first portion is added between about 22 and 28°C; the  
35 second portion is added between about 15 and 20°C; and the third portion is added between about 8 and 12°C). In addition, the first portion, preferably, contains nearly twice the amount of sodium chloride by weight as the second or third portion.

The anion of an isolated ECBN salt may be exchanged by slurrying the cyclopeptide ammonium salt with an acid salt (or metal salt) containing the desired

anion in a suitable solvent, heating the slurry to dissolve the reactants, and then cooling the solution to form the desired crystalline salt.

The crystalline forms offer several advantages such as easier isolation of the cyclopeptide from the mixed fermentation broth and/or process streams, improved  
5 purification of intermediates, improved shelf-life, and increased yields of the final acylated product. The degree to which each of these advantages are realized may be dependent upon the particular salt form and the process by which the salt is produced.

The crystalline salt may be isolated in a variety of crystalline forms (e.g., simple salt and inner-salt forms, solvated and/or hydrated forms, etc.). A simple  
10 protonated ammonium salt may be in the form of a mono- or di-acid addition salt, such as  $\text{CP-NH}_3^+\text{A}^-$ ,  $(\text{CP-NH}_3^+)_2\text{A}^{2-}$ , and  $(\text{CP-NH}_3^+\text{M}^+)\text{A}^{2-}$  where  $\text{CP-NH}_3^+$  represents the cyclopeptide containing a protonated primary amino group (e.g., ECBN), A is a mono- or di-valent anion and  $\text{M}^+$  is a mono-valent metal. Suitable monovalent anions include chloride, bromide, iodide, dihydrogen phosphate, hydrogen sulfate, hydrogen  
15 oxalate, hydrogen tartrate, benzoate, methanesulfonate and *p*-toluenesulfonate. Suitable divalent anions include sulfate, oxalate, hydrogen phosphate, tartrate and fumarate. Suitable metal cations include ammonium, lithium, sodium, potassium and tetraalkylammonium.

Inner-salt forms may be represented by formulae such as  $(\text{CP-NH}_3^+\text{A}^-)(\text{M}^+\text{A}^-)$   
20 and  $((\text{CP-NH}_3^+)_2\text{A}^{2-})(\text{M}^{+2}\text{A}^{2-})$ , where  $\text{M}^{+2}$  is a divalent metal. Suitable divalent metals include calcium and magnesium.

In addition to the basic salt forms discussed above, the salt can be isolated as a solvate. Examples of solvated forms include those with the following chemical  
25 formulae:  $(\text{CP-NH}_3^+\text{A}^-)(\text{H}_2\text{O})_a(\text{S})_b$ , where S is an organic solvent and the subscripts a and b represent solvate stoichiometry. Suitable solvate solvents include methanol, ethanol, ethylacetate, acetone, acetonitrile, tetrahydrofuran and toluene.

The non-solvated and solvated forms may exhibit polymorphism. For example, the crystalline form may be dependent upon the conditions for crystallization. Even though the stoichiometry may be the same, there may exist  
30 different three dimensional solid phase crystalline structures with different physical and chemical properties.

It will be understood by those skilled in the art that the following serves as illustrative examples and that other cyclopeptide ammonium salts can be purified or produced using the procedures described below. All references cited herein are  
35 hereby incorporated herein by reference.

#### EXAMPLES

Materials used in the following preparations are available from Aldrich Chemicals (Milwaukee, Wisconsin) unless designated otherwise. The following

abbreviations are used: ACN - acetonitrile; TFA - trifluoroacetic acid; and TRS - total related substances (i.e., impurities)

Analytical characterization of samples:

5 The quality and quantity of ECBN filtrate samples were evaluated using the following analytical methods.

Phosphate system: A Zorbox™ SB C-18, 3.5 micron particle column (0.46 cm ID x 15 cm), was eluted with a 1.0% phosphoric acid/ACN mobile phase at a flow rate of 1.5 ml/min. The column was operated at 30°C and the effluent monitored at 210 nm. The column is equilibrated in 1% ACN and after sample injection, a gradient ranging from 5 to 61.0% ACN over 9 minutes was used to elute ECBN. After elution, the column was washed with 50% ACN to elute any highly retained components.

10 Phosphate/Octanesulfonic Acid (OSA system): This system is similar to the phosphate system discussed above, with the exception that the mobile phase contains 30 mM OSA and 0.2% phosphoric acid. The column is equilibrated with 10% ACN. After the sample is injected, elution of ECBN is accomplished with a gradient ranging from 10 to 28% ACN over 9 minutes. The column was then washed with 50% ACN to elute highly retained components. Column flow rate and detector wavelength were as above, while the column temperature was 50°C. This system is particularly useful for quantitating the Asn-Gln-Leu-H tripeptide-aldehyde component.

20 TFA system: A Vydac™ C-18, 3.5 micron column (0.46 x 25 cm) was used for the assay. The mobile phase contained 0.1% TFA and elution was accomplished using a linear ACN gradient of 0 to 10% over 20 minutes, followed by a column wash of 50%. Column flow rate, temperature, and detector wavelength were the same as for the phosphate system described above.

25 **General Procedures**

Nanofiltration process:

Charge 10,000 liters of resin eluate containing approximately 30 Kg of ECBN dissolved in water containing ~3% acetic acid and 5% acetonitrile, to a nanofiltration system equipped with 600 ft<sup>2</sup> of Millipore Nanomax 50 membranes. The nanofiltration system is operated at 600 psig, 15°C, and a recirculation flowrate of ~50-200 lpm. The solution is concentrated to ~300 liters over 1-3 hours. The pH is adjusted with conc. HCl to between 2.7 and 3.0. The system is diafiltered with ~1000 liters of water (i.e., wash with water, while keeping the total volume roughly constant at 300 liters, e.g., add the water at the same rate that the filtrate flows through the membrane). After washing, the solution is concentrated to a final volume of 100 to 150 liters (200-300 g/liter). This is then taken directly into the crystallization step.

Example 1

Example 1 illustrates the crystallization process and the complexation of tripeptide-aldehyde impurities in a concentrate.

- A sample of an assay characterized aqueous ECB Nucleus Concentrate solution from various production lots that had been nanofiltered using the general process described above was weighed. (see Table I for subsequent treatments). In some cases, sodium bisulfite was added and the mixture stirred until the sodium bisulfite had dissolved. In all cases, the pH of the resulting solution was adjusted to 3.2-2.9 with dropwise addition of a dilute solution (~10 wt %) of hydrochloric acid.
- To the resulting pH adjusted solution was added a calculated quantity of sodium chloride and the mixture was stirred until the solids had dissolved. The resulting solution was transferred to a 100 ml jacketed crystallizer, equipped with a mechanical stirrer. To the stirred solution was added a fixed quantity of crystalline ECB Nucleus seed crystals (690 mg). The resulting seed slurry was stirred at 25°C for a period of about 24 hours. A second quantity of sodium chloride was added. The temperature of the stirred slurry was adjusted to 17°C and the contents were stirred for about 24 hours. Finally, a third quantity of sodium chloride was added. The temperature of the stirred slurry was adjusted to 10°C and the contents were stirred for about 24 hours. The resulting solids, from the ECB Nucleus crystalline slurry, were isolated by vacuum filtration. The crystalline wet cake product was washed with an aqueous solution of sodium chloride (about 10 ml, 14 wt.%) and pulled dry. The crystals were allowed to dry in a 75% relative humidity chamber, overnight. The isolated products were weighed and assayed for potency as recorded in Table II where \* indicates that potency may be low due to insufficient drying.

Table I

Conc. Sample #	Conc Pot (wt%)	Tripep Impur (wt%)	Conc Amt (g)	ECBN Amt (bg)	Na Bisulfite (g)	1st NaCl (g)	2 <sup>nd</sup> NaCl (g)	3 <sup>rd</sup> NaCl (g)
3-1a	21.18	7.3	55.23	11.70	0.00	4.23	1.06	0.63
3-1b	21.18	7.3	55.23	11.70	1.70	4.23	1.06	0.63
3-1a	23.85	7.9	52.01	12.40	0.00	3.99	1.00	0.60
3-2b	23.85	7.9	52.01	12.40	1.83	3.99	1.00	0.60
3-3a	21.4	14.3	56.57	12.11	0.00	4.33	1.08	0.65
3-3b	21.4	14.3	56.57	12.11	2.42	4.33	1.08	0.65
3-4a	22.38	11.5	55.72	12.47	0.00	4.27	1.07	0.64
3-4b	22.38	11.5	55.72	12.47	2.10	4.27	1.07	0.64
3-5a	22.83	0.9	52.75	12.04	0.00	4.04	1.01	0.61
3-5b	22.83	0.9	52.75	12.04	1.28	4.04	1.01	0.61
3-6a	21.68	7.74	55.24	11.98	0.00	3.89	0.97	0.58
3-6b	21.68	7.74	55.24	11.98	1.28	3.89	0.97	0.58

Table II

Sample #	ECBN Yield(g)	ECBN Potency(%)	ECBN Yield(bg)	ECBN Yield(%)
3-1a	9.01	71.7	6.46	55.2
3-1b	11.93	74.3	8.86	75.8
3-1a	20.38	48.7	9.92	80.0
3-2b	13.1	76.4	10.01	80.7
3-3a	4.36	75.9	3.31	27.3
3-3b	19.23	54*	10.38	85.8
3-4a	23.79	45.2	10.75	86.2
3-4b	13.23	76.8	10.16	81.5
3-5a	12.74	76.3	9.72	80.7
3-5b	13.11	75.8	9.94	82.5
3-6a	8.38	73.8	6.18	51.6
3-6b	11.55	75	8.66	72.3

Example 2

- 5      Example 2 illustrates the conversion of an amorphous ECBN acetate ammonium salt to a variety of crystalline salts.
-

	oxa.							
4	Pot. oxa.	23.9	17.3	80.9	1.05	17.0	4.92	0.75
5	NH <sub>4</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	26.5	33.1	74.7	1.05	16.2	8.69	1.07
6	NH <sub>4</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	17.7	16.6	77.7	0.88	17.2	5.90	0.48
7	LiSO <sub>4</sub>	35.4	20.7	76.1	0.66	17.7	7.59	0.52
8	Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	26.5	17.8	78.2	0.54	17.1	5.71	0.76
9	Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	26.5	17.8	78.9	0.55	17.2	5.36	0.56
10	NaBr	10.0	21.4	76.9	0.78	15.3	9.36	0.78
11	Amm oxa	10.0	satd.	80.8	0.48	17.3	4.50	0.11
12	Na oxa	10.0	satd.	81.8	0.54	17.2	2.12	0.10
13	Na isethi onate	10.0	36.1	78.2	0.58	14.1	9.10	0.44
14	NaH <sub>2</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>	19.7	27.0%	74.2%	0.67%	17.5%	7.25%	1.25%
15	NaH <sub>2</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>	19.7	27.0%	73.7%	1.48%	18.3%	6.59%	1.25%
16	NaNO <sub>3</sub>	10.0	30.0%	79.1%	0.56%	15.6%	7.40%	1.03%
17	CaCl <sub>2</sub>	10.0	25.0%	75.7%	1.02%	18.6%	5.95%	1.55%

The isolated wet cakes for each sample were examined microscopically under polarized light and showed birefringent behavior typical of crystalline materials. In addition, photomicrographs displayed crystalline forms. All of the isolated materials showed distinct diffraction patterns consistent with the presence of crystalline materials when analyzed by x-ray powder diffraction (XRPD).

### Example 3

Example 3 compares the quality of ECBN concentrated via distillation (Method A) versus nano-filtration (Method B).

#### Method A

The combined fractions from column elution (called "mainstream" ~10,000 L) are partially transferred to a distillation apparatus. The volatile components, including acetonitrile, acetic acid and water are partially removed by distillation at reduced pressure. Typical distillation temperatures are between 40°C and 45°C. Transfer of the mainstream to the distillation apparatus and distillation are continued until the total volume of the concentrate is about 200 L. Typical distillation times are 24 to 36 hours.

#### Method B

The combined fractions from column elution (~10,000 L) are re-circulated through a nano-filtration apparatus under pressure. During the re-circulation operation, a major portion of the acetonitrile, water and acetic acid are removed. Other impurities are also removed, including calcium and magnesium salts. The removed materials are dissolved in a process stream referred to as the "permeate". The

concentrated portion, containing retained materials, is referred to as the "retentate". The re-circulation operation is continued until the volume of the retentate is about 500 L.

- 5 Sodium chloride (10 kg), hydrochloric acid (to adjust the pH of the retentate to 3.0) and water (2600 L) are added to the retentate. The retentate mixture is re-circulated through the nano-filtration apparatus until the volume of the retentate is about 200 L. Typical nano-filtration times are about 9 hours.

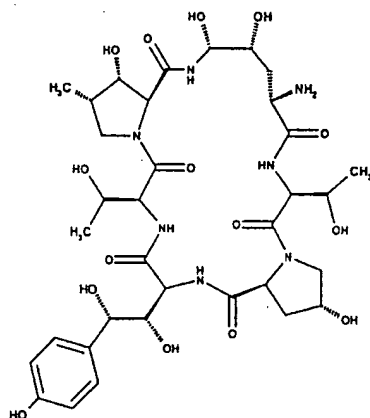
#### Observations

- 10 ECB Nucleus concentrate solutions prepared by nano-filtration (Method B) are of better quality than solutions prepared by distillation (Method A). HPLC chromatograms of the ECB nucleus materials show that the type and quantities of impurities present are lower or absent in nano-filtered materials prepared by Method B as compared to distilled materials prepared by Method A. For example, the chromatograms show that impurities associated with thermal degradation are
- 15 significantly greater in concentrates prepared by distillation than concentrates prepared by nano-filtration. The average degradation impurity level in 8 distilled concentrates was 6.5% (mean = 7.9%, range = 4.72% to 11.1%). Whereas, the average degradation impurity level in 18 nano-filtered concentrates was 3.2% (mean = 4.7%, range = 0.42% to 8.95%).
- 20 Recovery of crystalline ECB Nucleus from ECB Nucleus concentrate solutions prepared by nano-filtration are typically greater than recoveries from concentrate solutions prepared by distillation. The average recovery of crystalline ECB Nucleus from 8 distilled concentrate solutions was 25.6% (mean = 25.8%, range = 4.0% to 47.6%). By contrast, the average recovery of crystalline ECB Nucleus from
- 25 18 nano-filtered concentrates was 60.6% (mean = 51.0%, range = 23.3% to 78.7%).



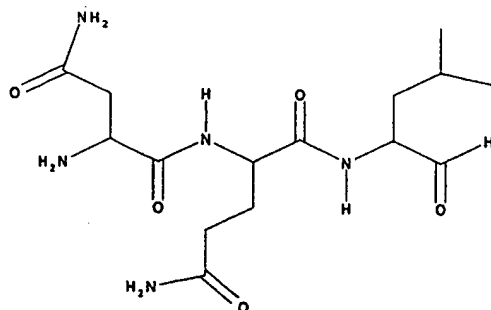
## WE CLAIM:

1. A method for forming a crystalline echinocandin nucleus salt from its mixed broth or partially purified process streams comprising in the following order the steps of:
  - 5 providing a solution comprising an echinocandin nucleus or amorphous salt thereof, an aldehyde impurity and a solvent;
  - concentrating said solution by means of a nanofiltration process to form a concentrate;
  - adding a derivatizing agent which selectively interacts with said aldehyde
  - 10 impurity;
  - adjusting the pH of said concentrate to less than 4.0;
  - adding an acid or metal salt; and
  - cooling said concentrate.
2. The method of Claim 1 further comprising a step (vii) adding a seed crystal to
- 15 initiate crystallization.
3. The method of Claim 1 wherein said echinocandin nucleus is ECBN represented by the structure

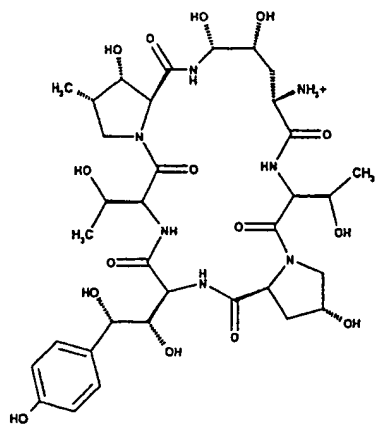


20

4. The method of Claim 3 wherein said derivatizing agent is sodium bisulfite, said inorganic acid is hydrogen chloride, and said aldehyde impurity is represented by the structure:



5. The method of claim 1 wherein said metal salt is added in portions.
6. The method of Claim 5 wherein said portions are added at different temperatures.
7. A crystalline hydrochloride salt of echinocandin B nucleus prepared by the steps of
  - providing a solution comprising echinocandin B nucleus or amorphous salt thereof, an aldehyde impurity and a solvent;
  - concentrating said solution by means of a nanofiltration process to form a concentrate;
  - adding sodium bisulfite;
  - adjusting the pH of said concentrate to less than 4.0;
  - adding a chloride metal salt; and
  - cooling said concentrate.
8. The crystalline hydrochloride salt of Claim 7 wherein said chloride metal salt is added in three portions which comprises a first portion which is added between about 22 and 28°C, a second portion which is added between about 20 and 15°C and a third portion which is added between about 12 and 8°C.
9. The crystalline hydrochloride salt of Claim 8 wherein said first portion contains nearly twice as much chloride metal salt by weight as either said second or third portion.
10. A crystalline salt form of echinocandin B nucleus represented by the formula
 
$$\text{CP-NH}_3^+\text{A}^-, (\text{CP-NH}_3^+)_2\text{A}^{2-}, \text{ or } (\text{CP-NH}_3^+\text{M}^+)\text{A}^{2-}$$
 wherein CP-NH<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> is represented by the structure



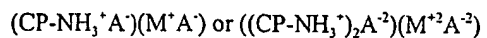
$A^-$  is chloride, bromide, iodide, dihydrogen phosphate, hydrogen sulfate, hydrogen oxalate, hydrogen tartrate, benzoate, methanesulfonate, or *p*-toluenesulfonate;

5

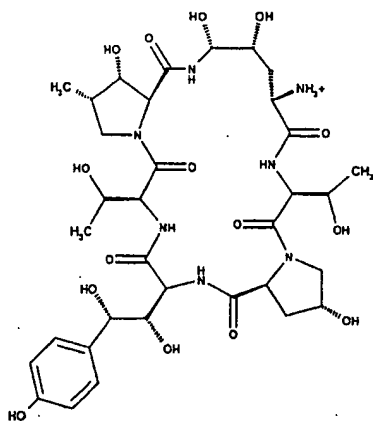
$M^+$  is ammonium, lithium, sodium, potassium or tetraalkylammonium,  
 $A^{2-}$  is sulfate, oxalate, hydrogen phosphate, tartrate or fumarate; and  
 pharmaceutically acceptable solvates or hydrates thereof.

11. A crystalline inner-salt form of an echinocandin nucleus represented by the formula

10



wherein  $CP-NH_3^+$  is represented by the structure



A<sup>-</sup> is chloride, bromide, iodide, dihydrogen phosphate, hydrogen sulfate, hydrogen oxalate, hydrogen tartrate, benzoate, methanesulfonate, or *p*-toluenesulfonate;

M<sup>+</sup> is ammonium, lithium, sodium, potassium or tetraalkylammonium;

5 A<sup>-2</sup> is sulfate, oxalate, hydrogen phosphate, tartrate or fumarate;

M<sup>+2</sup> is calcium or magnesium; and

pharmaceutically acceptable solvates or hydrates thereof.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/US 00/05494

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
IPC 7 C07K7/56 C07K1/36

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 C07K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	WO 97 27864 A (LILLY CO ELI) 7 August 1997 (1997-08-07) page 13, claims	1-11
Y	EP 0 744 405 A (LILLY CO ELI) 27 November 1996 (1996-11-27) whole document, claims, esp. example 2	1-11
X	EP 0 031 221 A (LILLY CO ELI) 1 July 1981 (1981-07-01)	10
Y	claim 2, A-30912A	1-9, 11
	-/-	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

### \* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

31 May 2000

Date of mailing of the international search report

07/06/2000

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3018

Authorized officer

Kronester-Frei, A.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/US 00/05494

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	MORITA H ET AL: "Crystal and Solution Forms of a Cyclic Heptapeptide, Pseudostellarin D" TETRAHEDRON,NL,ELSEVIER SCIENCE PUBLISHERS, AMSTERDAM, vol. 51, no. 46, 13 November 1995 (1995-11-13), pages 12539-12548, XP004104640 ISSN: 0040-4020 whole document, esp. page 12540	1-11
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1998, no. 06, 30 April 1998 (1998-04-30) & JP 10 036284 A (SUMITOMO PHARMACEUT CO LTD), 10 February 1998 (1998-02-10) abstract	1-11
P,X	WO 99 40108 A (BARRETT DAVID ;MATSUDA KEIJI (JP); OHKI HIDENORI (JP); KAWABATA KO) 12 August 1999 (1999-08-12) claims and page 6-11, 36-42, especially page 42	1-11

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/US 00/05494

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 9727864 A	07-08-1997	AU 1851797 A CA 2244238 A EP 0881907 A US 5693611 A	22-08-1997 07-08-1997 09-12-1998 02-12-1997
EP 0744405 A	27-11-1996	AU 5799196 A CA 2220728 A JP 11505845 T WO 9637510 A US 5652213 A	11-12-1996 28-11-1996 25-05-1999 28-11-1996 29-07-1997
EP 0031221 A	01-07-1981	US 4293482 A US 4304716 A US 4299763 A US 4293490 A US 4299762 A BE 886577 A CA 1170598 A CH 646701 A DD 155250 A DE 3062235 D DK 528680 A ES 497719 D ES 8205857 A FI 803872 A FR 2484451 A GB 2065131 A,B GR 72254 A HU 185021 B IL 61651 A IT 1141151 B JP 1025797 A JP 1688668 C JP 3053320 B JP 1617523 C JP 2038600 B JP 56120655 A KR 8400769 B PL 228450 A PT 72153 A,B YU 311080 A ZA 8007816 A AU 6533680 A	06-10-1981 08-12-1981 10-11-1981 06-10-1981 10-11-1981 10-06-1981 10-07-1984 14-12-1984 26-05-1982 07-04-1983 14-06-1981 16-11-1981 01-11-1982 14-06-1981 18-12-1981 24-06-1981 06-10-1983 28-11-1984 30-04-1984 01-10-1986 27-01-1989 11-08-1992 14-08-1991 12-09-1991 31-08-1990 22-09-1981 08-06-1984 07-08-1981 01-01-1981 28-02-1983 28-07-1982 18-06-1981
JP 10036284 A	10-02-1998	NONE	
WO 9940108 A	12-08-1999	AU 2299899 A	23-08-1999